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REFERENCE: BO Q857

ATTACHMENT TOM-5253
13 DECEMBER 1968
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TANKS IN TRANSIT
NAM DINH AREA, NORTH VIETNAM
2028N 10611E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS HEAVILY CAMOUFLAGED T-34/85 TANKS ON A SECONDARY ROAD WHICH LEADS INTO NAM DINH.

2. LOCATION:

2.9 NM NNE OF NAM DINH.

3. BACKGROUND:

TANKS OF THIS TYPE HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN NORTH VIETNAM IN THE PAST, USUALLY IN THE ARMOR TRAINING AREAS AROUND VINH YEN AND BAI THUONG. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE TANKS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED IN TRANSIT OUTSIDE THESE AREAS. HOWEVER, PT-76 TANKS WERE USED DURING THE SIEGE OF THE KHE SANH COMBAT BASE IN FEBRUARY 1968.

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS EIGHT HEAVILY CAMOUFLAGED T-34/85 TANKS, WITH TUBES IN TRAVEL POSITION, PARKED HEADING EAST ON A SECONDARY UNNUMBERED ROUTE WHICH LEADS INTO NAM DINH.

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5. REMARKS:

THE ROUTE ON WHICH THE TANKS ARE LOCATED MAY HAVE BEEN CHOSEN BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF BRIDGING STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE THESE 35-TON VEHICLES ON OTHER ROADS.

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MAJOR ROAD AND RAIL TERMINALS ARE AVAILABLE IN NAM DINH FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT TO OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THIS AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM DOES NOT LEND ITSELF READILY TO ARMOR TRAINING NOR TO THE OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT OF ARMORED VEHICLES.

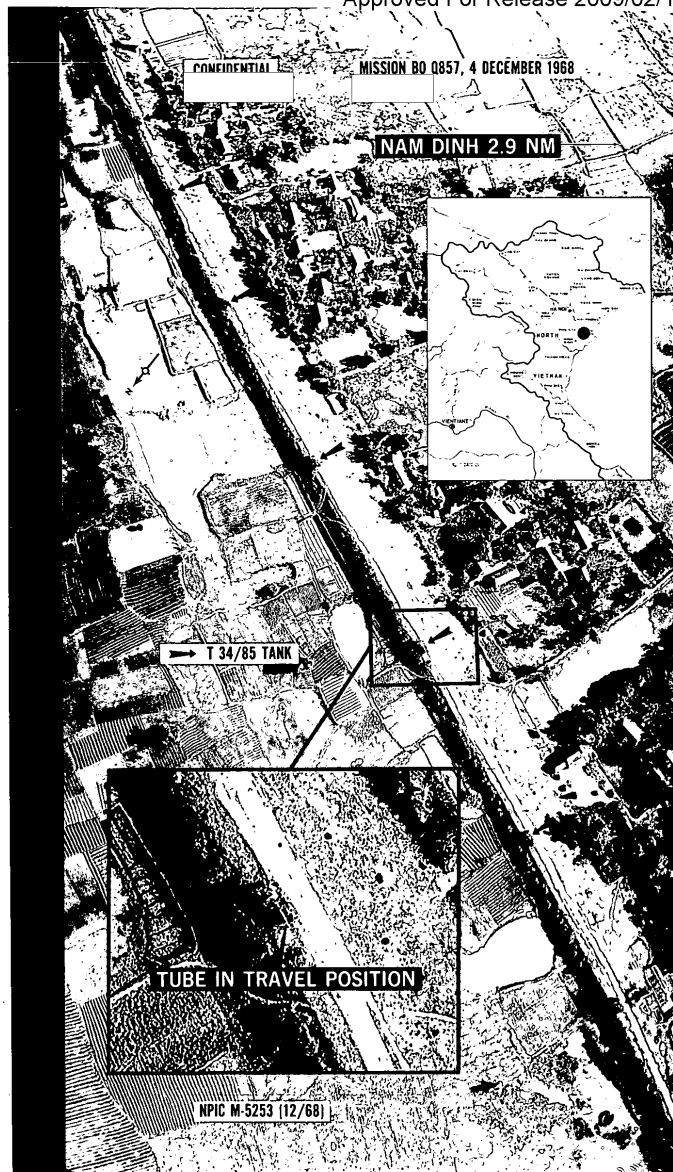
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[REDACTED]
MAP REFERENCE AMS SERIES L7014, SHEET 6249 IV, SCALE 1:50,000

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TANKS IN TRANSIT

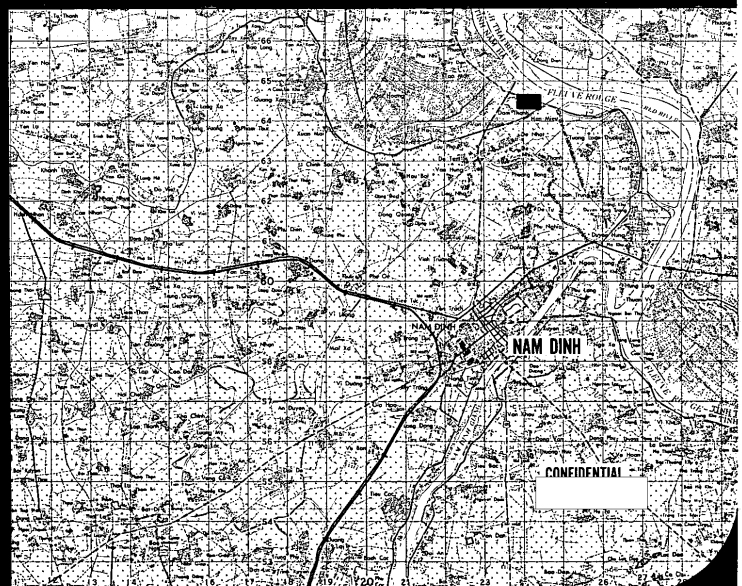
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20-28N 106-11E

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